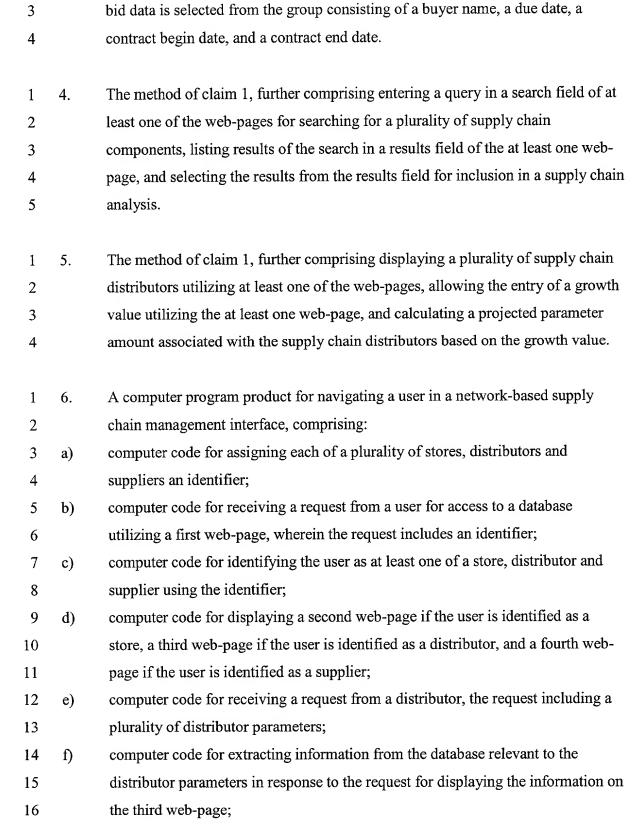
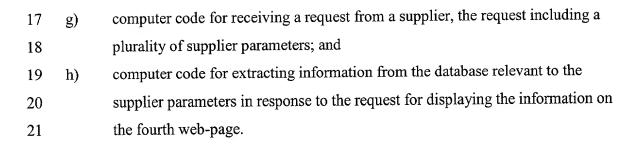
CLAIMS

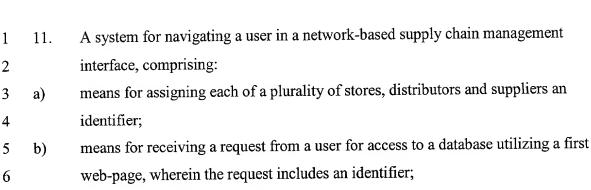
What is claimed is:

1	1.	A method for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management
2		interface, comprising:
3	a)	assigning each of a plurality of stores, distributors and suppliers an identifier;
4	b)	receiving a request from a user for access to a database utilizing a first web-page,
5		wherein the request includes an identifier;
6	c)	identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the
7		identifier;
8	d)	displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page
9		if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the user is
10		identified as a supplier;
11	e)	receiving a request from a distributor, the request including a plurality of
12		distributor parameters;
13	f)	extracting information from the database relevant to the distributor parameters in
14		response to the request for displaying the information on the third web-page;
15	g)	receiving a request from a supplier, the request including a plurality of supplier
16		parameters; and
17	h)	extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in
18		response to the request for displaying the information on the fourth web-page.
1	2.	The method of claim 1, further comprising identifying a contract utilizing at least
2		one of the web-pages, associating the contract with an item to be distributed
3		utilizing the at least one web-page, and preventing the item from being associated
4		with more than one contract.
1	3.	The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving bid data utilizing at least one
2		of the web-pages, and generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the

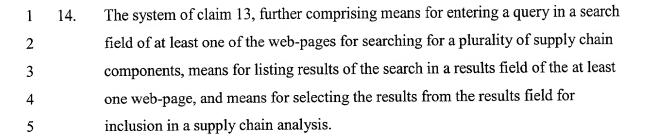




- 7. The computer program product of claim 6, further comprising computer code for identifying a contract utilizing at least one of the web-pages, computer code for associating the contract with an item to be distributed utilizing the at least one web-page, and computer code for preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract.
- 8. The computer program product of claim 6, further comprising computer code for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages, and computer code for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date.
- 9. The computer program product of claim 6, further comprising computer code for entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components, computer code for listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page, and computer code for selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis.
- 1 10. The computer program product of claim 6, further comprising computer code for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages, computer code for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page, and computer code for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.



- 7 c) means for identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the identifier;
- means for displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the user is identified as a supplier;
- means for receiving a request from a distributor, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;
- means for extracting information from the database relevant to the distributor
 parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on the third
 web-page;
- means for receiving a request from a supplier, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters; and
- means for extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier
 parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on the fourth
 web-page.
- 1 12. The system of claim 13, further comprising means for identifying a contract
 2 utilizing at least one of the web-pages, means for associating the contract with an
 3 item to be distributed utilizing the at least one web-page, and means for
 4 preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract.
- The system of claim 13, further comprising means for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages, and means for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date.



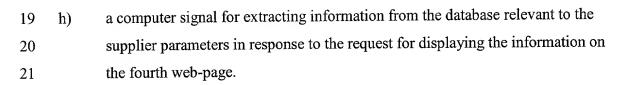
- 1 15. The system of claim 13, further comprising means for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages, means for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page, and means for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.
- 1 16. A computer product for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:
- a) a computer signal for assigning each of a plurality of stores, distributors and
 suppliers an identifier;
- 5 b) a computer signal for receiving a request from a user for access to a database 6 utilizing a first web-page, wherein the request includes an identifier;
- a computer signal for identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and supplier using the identifier;
- a computer signal for displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth webpage if the user is identified as a supplier;
- 12 e) a computer signal for receiving a request from a distributor, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters;
- 14 f) a computer signal for extracting information from the database relevant to the
 15 distributor parameters in response to the request for displaying the information on
 16 the third web-page;
- a computer signal for receiving a request from a supplier, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters; and

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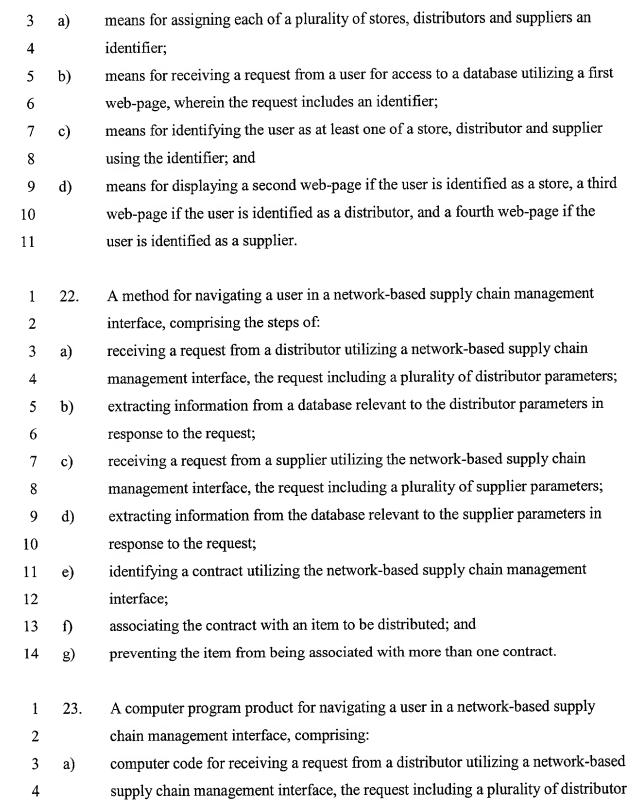
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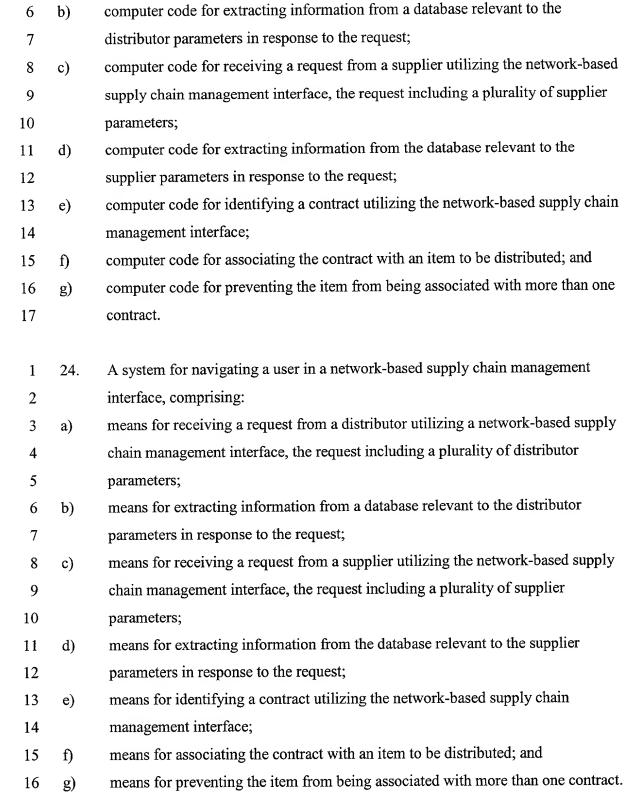
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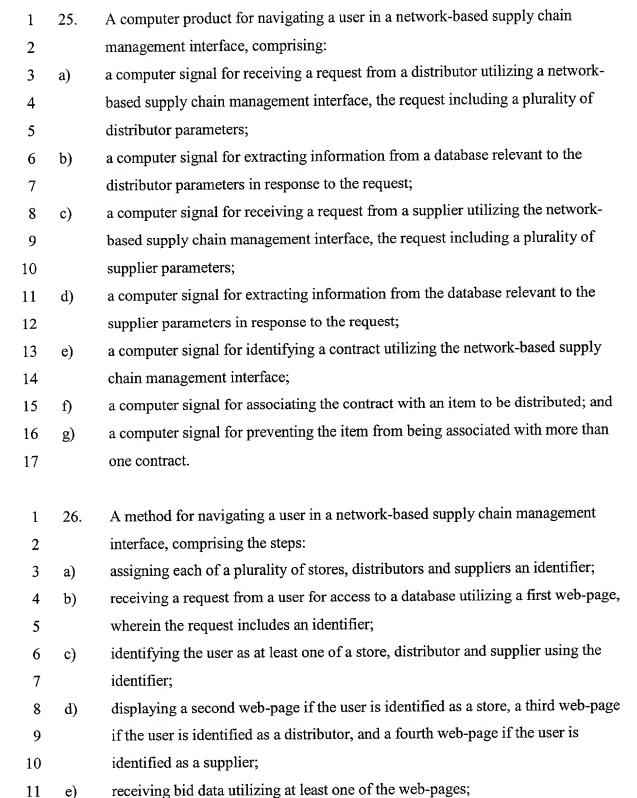


- 1 17. The computer product of claim 16, further comprising a computer signal for
 2 identifying a contract utilizing at least one of the web-pages, a computer signal for
 3 associating the contract with an item to be distributed utilizing the at least one
 4 web-page, and a computer signal for preventing the item from being associated
 5 with more than one contract.
- The computer product of claim 16, further comprising a computer signal for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages, and a computer signal for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a contract end date.
 - 19. The computer product of claim 16, further comprising a computer signal for entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components, a computer signal for listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page, and a computer signal for selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis.
- The computer product of claim 16, further comprising a computer signal for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages, a computer signal for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page, and a computer signal for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.
- 1 21. A computer product for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management interface, comprising:

parameters;

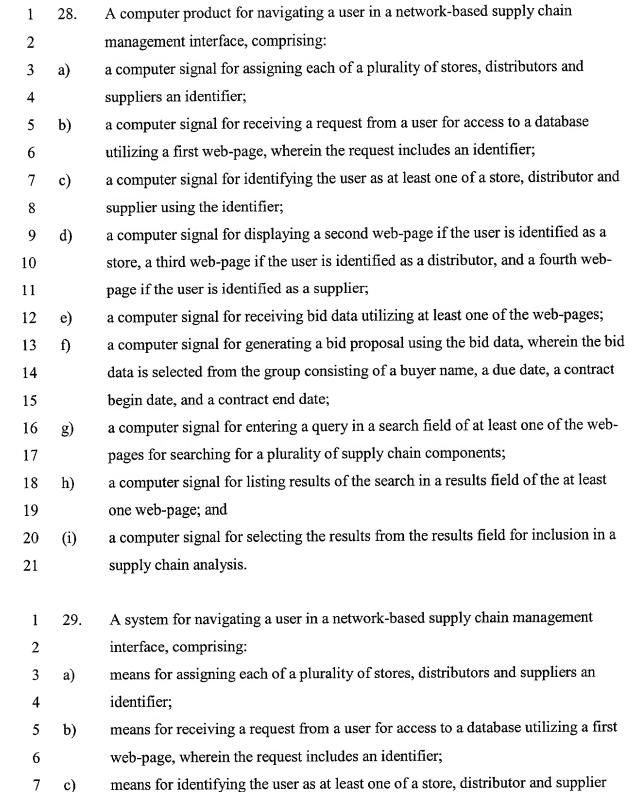






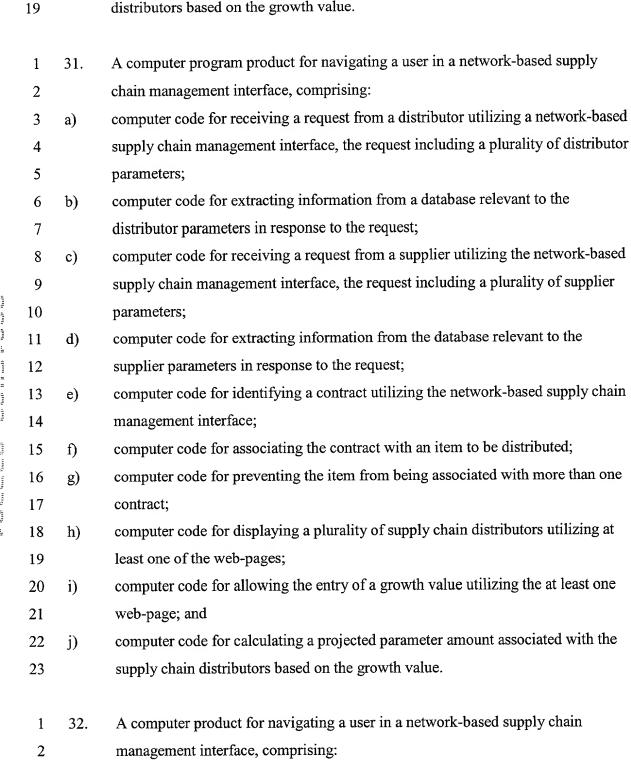
12	f)	generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is selected from
13	,	the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin date, and a
14		contract end date;
15	g)	entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for searching for
16		a plurality of supply chain components;
17	h)	listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-page; and
18	(i)	selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply chain analysis.
	•	
1	27.	A computer program product for navigating a user in a network-based supply
2		chain management interface, comprising:
3	a)	computer code for assigning each of a plurality of stores, distributors and
4		suppliers an identifier;
5	b)	computer code for receiving a request from a user for access to a database
6		utilizing a first web-page, wherein the request includes an identifier;
7	c)	computer code for identifying the user as at least one of a store, distributor and
8		supplier using the identifier;
9	d)	computer code for displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a
10		store, a third web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-
11		page if the user is identified as a supplier;
12	e)	computer code for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages;
13	f)	computer code for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid
14		data is selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract
15		begin date, and a contract end date;
16	g)	computer code for entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-
17		pages for searching for a plurality of supply chain components;
18	h)	computer code for listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one
19		web-page; and
20	(i)	computer code for selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a
21		supply chain analysis.

using the identifier;



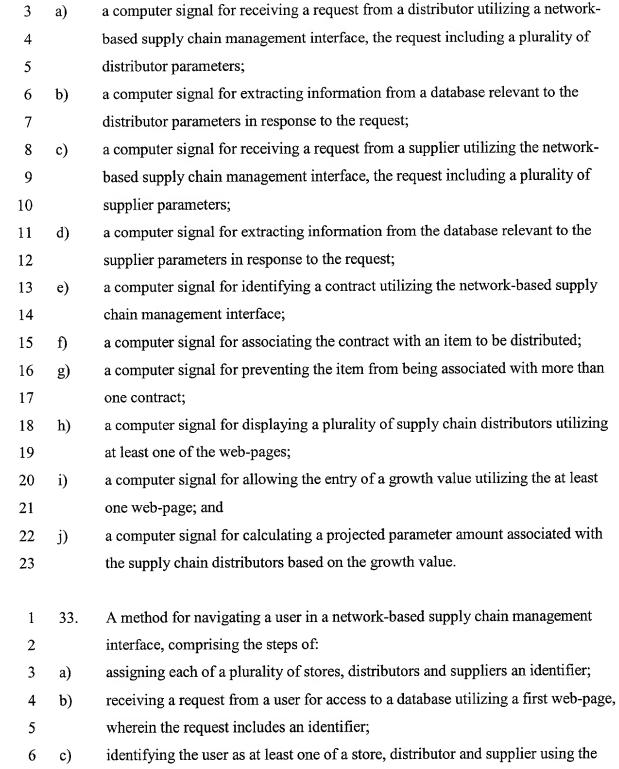
means for displaying a second web-page if the user is identified as a store, a third 9 d) web-page if the user is identified as a distributor, and a fourth web-page if the 10 user is identified as a supplier; 11 means for receiving bid data utilizing at least one of the web-pages; 12 e) means for generating a bid proposal using the bid data, wherein the bid data is 13 f) selected from the group consisting of a buyer name, a due date, a contract begin 14 date, and a contract end date; 15 means for entering a query in a search field of at least one of the web-pages for 16 g) 17 searching for a plurality of supply chain components; means for listing results of the search in a results field of the at least one web-18 h) 19 page; and means for selecting the results from the results field for inclusion in a supply 20 (i) 21 chain analysis. A method for navigating a user in a network-based supply chain management 30. 1 2 interface, comprising the steps of: receiving a request from a distributor utilizing a network-based supply chain 3 a) management interface, the request including a plurality of distributor parameters; 4 extracting information from a database relevant to the distributor parameters in 5 b) 6 response to the request; receiving a request from a supplier utilizing the network-based supply chain 7 c) management interface, the request including a plurality of supplier parameters; 8 extracting information from the database relevant to the supplier parameters in 9 d) 10 response to the request; identifying a contract utilizing the network-based supply chain management 11 e) 12 interface; associating the contract with an item to be distributed; 13 f) preventing the item from being associated with more than one contract; 14 g) displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-15 h) 16 pages; allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page; and 17 i)

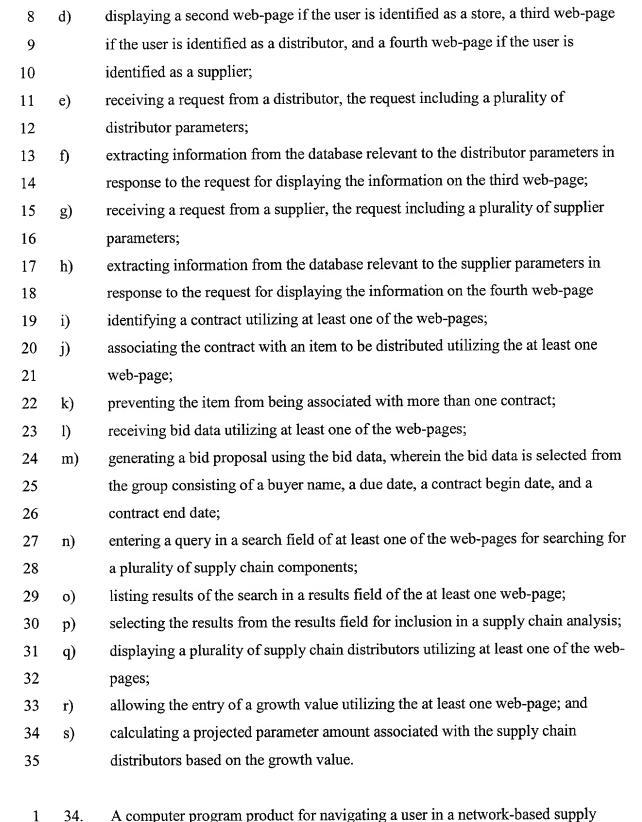
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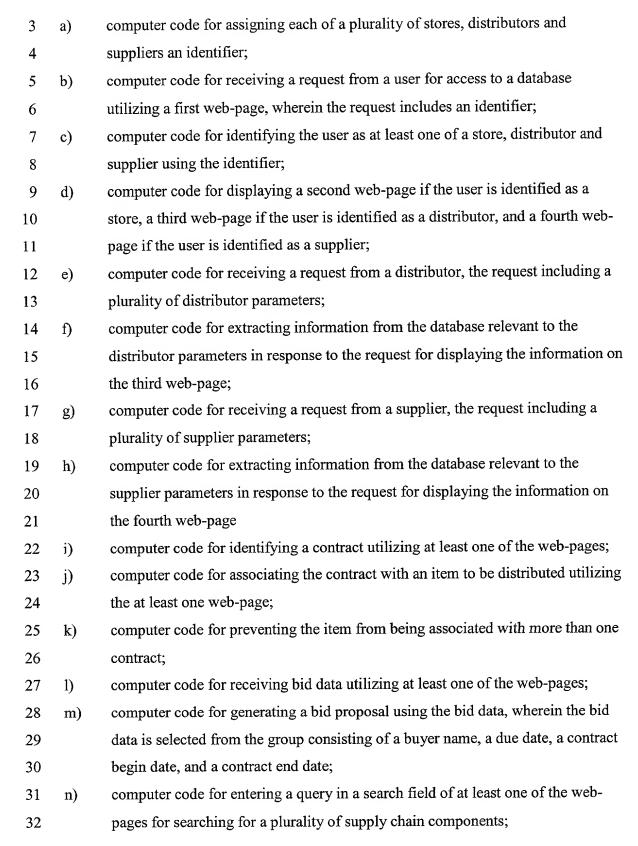
calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain

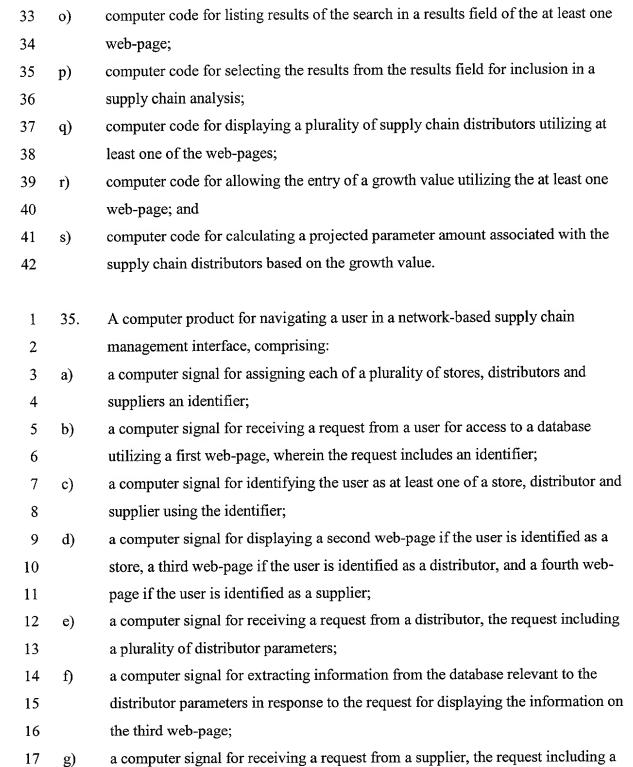
identifier;



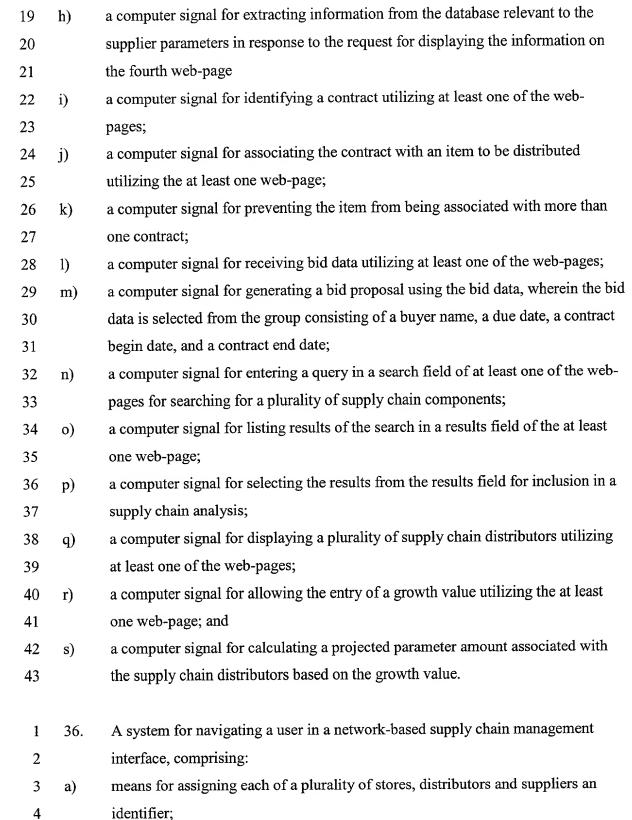


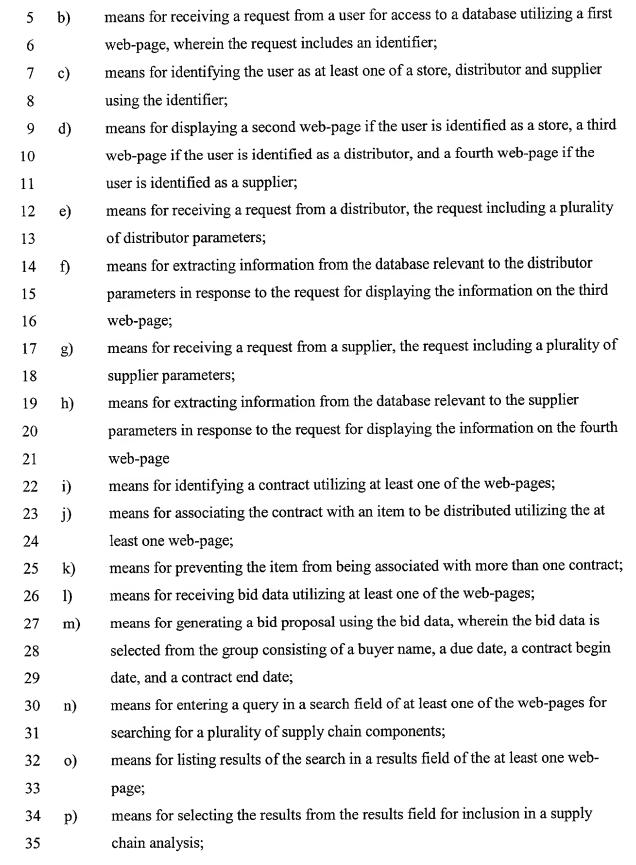
chain management interface, comprising:





plurality of supplier parameters;





means for displaying a plurality of supply chain distributors utilizing at least one of the web-pages;

means for allowing the entry of a growth value utilizing the at least one web-page;

and

means for calculating a projected parameter amount associated with the supply chain distributors based on the growth value.